

our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

INTRODUCING THE "INTERNET GAMBLING REGULATION AND TAX ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2013"

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Internet Gambling Regulation and Tax Enforcement Act of 2013. This bill would generate new streams of revenue for the federal government as well as state and tribal governments, create an estimated 30,000 new jobs in America, and provide funding for children in foster care and for historic preservation and the arts. This is a companion bill to H.R. 2282, legislation sponsored by Cong. PETER KING and CAPUANO, which would license and regulate online gambling at the federal level. Under current law, intra-state online gambling is legal, but inter-state online gambling is not, except for betting on horseracing, which is legal on an inter-state basis.

Under my legislation, the federal government along with state and tribal governments would recognize a new, untapped stream of revenue. The revenue could help jurisdictions fund needed services at a time when many governments are struggling with tightening budgets.

Online gambling operators would pay a tax to the federal government as well as state and tribal governments equal to a percentage of the total deposits they collect. The money paid to the governments would not be deducted from the accounts of online gamblers.

Operators will pay a tax to the federal government equal to four percent of the funds deposited by players who reside inside the U.S. Operators will pay a tax to state and tribal governments equal to eight percent of the funds deposited by individuals residing within their jurisdiction. The deposits to state and tribal governments would be made automatically every month by website operators, in lieu of them (the governments?) imposing other taxes of their own. This deposit tax for states and tribes would be an optional, simple, and uniform way to participate.

A quarter of the revenue raised by the bill would go to providing assistance to the nearly 500,000 children in America who live in foster care. The funds generated would be directed at helping foster children through grants to each State to carry out educational and transi-

tional support for individuals who are or were in foster care.

Finally, the bill sets aside 0.5 percent for historic preservation and the arts. I helped enact a similar program in my home state of Washington, and it has been hugely successful over the years.

Some in this body may be concerned that legalizing online gambling would further open the door of the virtual casino to children, but evidence shows the current availability of online gambling options on the Internet has not led to an increase in gambling among minors. Moreover, technology is widely available and used in the United States and abroad to verify identity, age and location for online financial transactions from online banking to online gambling on horseracing.

The future is happening. People in small towns and big cities across America are gambling online either legally under a patchwork of inconsistent state laws or illegally without any consumer protection. We have to deal with this issue. If we regulate online gambling, we can create jobs, generate revenue, and expand aid to children in foster care.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA—125TH ANNIVERSARY OF INCORPORATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to the City of Redlands, California, as their community celebrates the 125th Anniversary of Incorporation. The City of Redlands was established in 1888 by vote of the people of the Lugonia and Redlands Townships. Following incorporation, the City of Redlands rapidly gained distinction for superior citrus production, and was considered around the globe to be the "The Washington Naval Growing Capitol of the World." Through thoughtful leadership and the dedication of residents, The City of Redlands has grown from a small agricultural community to an economic, academic and cultural epicenter.

Redlands, "A City That Works," is home to more than 200,000 residents who enjoy a wide variety of cultural events throughout the year including the Summer Music Festival at the Redlands Bowl, the Redlands Theater Festival and the Redlands Symphony. Popular community events include the Redlands Bicycle Classic and the Run through Redlands.

Residents of the City of Redlands are proud of their City's distinct attributes and have

worked with the City of Redlands Historic and Scenic Preservation Ordinance and Commission, the Redlands Area Historical Society and the Redlands Conservancy to ensure the preservation of the historic built environment and conserve the natural open space. Many architectural treasures including the Lincoln Memorial Shrine, the Redlands Bowl Prosellis, Kimberly Crest House and Gardens, A.K. Smiley Public Library and Morey Mansion have been preserved for future generations due to the dedication and generosity of residents of the City of Redlands.

The commitment of the residents of the City of Redlands for bettering their community extends to their support of the University of Redlands, a private liberal arts university, consistently ranked among the best universities in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, on this very special year for the City of Redlands, please join me in commemorating their One Hundred and Twenty Fifth anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on November 12 and 13, 2013, due to the birth of my first child. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Tuesday, November 12, 2013:

Rollcall No. 571: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2871, "yea."

Rollcall No. 572: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2922, "yea."

Wednesday, November 13, 2013:

Rollcall No. 573: On Ordering the Previous Question, providing for consideration of H.R. 982 and H.R. 2655, "yea."

Rollcall No. 574: On Agreeing to the Resolution providing for consideration of H.R. 982 and H.R. 2655, "yea."

Rollcall No. 575: Cohen of Tennessee Amendment No. 1, "no."

Rollcall No. 576: Nadler of New York Amendment No. 2, "no."

Rollcall No. 577: Jackson Lee of Texas Amendment No. 3, "no."

Rollcall No. 578: On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no."

Rollcall No. 579: On Passage of H.R. 982, "yea."